



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

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Secretary of State Kevin Shelley Announces Young Voter Participation Programs

SAN FRANCISCO, CA— Secretary of State Kevin Shelley today announced new measures designed to encourage young people to vote.

“As our nation mourns the loss of our fortieth president, an appropriate way for young people to honor his memory is by registering to vote and making their voices heard every Election Day,” said Shelley.

The Secretary of State outlined three steps he is taking to boost turnout among young, first time voters.

First, he is sponsoring a Constitutional Amendment to allow people who will be 18 by the time of the general election to vote in the preceding primary election.

Second, Shelley is initiating a program to make it easier to recruit and train student poll workers. Serving as student poll workers will give young adults “hands on experience in the election process...to help create a new generation of civic leaders,” said Shelley.

Third, Shelley vowed to provide thousands of young adults with voter registration cards by attaching the cards to the diplomas of new graduates of high schools, community colleges, and public universities.

As a result of this new program, every California high school, community college, California State University and University of California student should be provided with a voter registration card form with their diploma upon graduation. The voter registration forms were provided—via the schools—to over a potential 600,000 students throughout the state. This included 351,440 High School students, 122,600 Community College students, and 153,400 CSU and UC students.